

US DoD SAP REQUIREMENTS TF

Meeting Notes

Parameters

Number:	5	Date:	June 3, 2004
Name:	OSD SAP Requirements Task Force Meeting	Time:	0900-1600
Facilitator:	Mike Hennessy (TF Chairman)	Location:	DLA HQ, Fort Belvoir, VA
Scribe:	Brian Forsyth	Dial-In #/Code:	

Meeting Purpose

This fifth DoD SAP Requirements TF meeting was held in conjunction with an off-cycle scheduled US DoD Supply Process Review Committee meeting. The meeting had the following agenda:

3 June, 2004

0900 – 0915	Introductions and Admin
0915 – 1000	Review Meeting Objectives
1000 - 1030	Review SAP Proposed Solution for Priority, Advice, and Status Codes
Break	
1045 – 1200	Individual Solution Presentations: DLA, Navy, LMP
Lunch	
1300 – 1430	Develop Feedback for SAP
Break	
1445 – 1600	DoD MILS/DLMS Strategy - Next Steps
1600 – 1630	Summary and Action Item Review

Meeting Notes

Item	
1.	<p><u>Opening Remarks:</u></p> <p>TF Chairman (Mr. Mike Hennessy) jointly welcomed the attendees with Ms. Ellen Hilert, Chairman of the DoD Supply Process Review Committee (SPRC). Mike particularly thanked Ellen and the other SPRC members for allowing the SAP</p>

	<p>Requirements TF to use the venue of their meeting to address SAP Requirements TF issues. After introductions, Mike reviewed the agenda and stated the objectives of the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide immediate feedback to SAP on their proposed solution to MILS-related defense requirements (DRQ's) submitted by other DEIG members 2. To discuss US DoD strategy for accommodating MILS/DLMS requirements in US DoD SAP systems <p>Mike talked briefly about the SAP Defense Interest Group (DEIG - an SAP user group for defense forces), and the process and timelines for inputting defense development requirements (DRQ's). More information on this process and the latest information and meeting notes for DEIG meetings is available in the SAP Defense section of the SAP web site. Mike's presentation is included as an attachment with these meeting minutes.</p>
2.	<p><u>Review SAP Proposed Solution for Priority, Advice, and Status Codes:</u></p> <p>Mike Hennessy led a detailed review of the SAP proposal to accommodate limited MILS priority, advice, and status code functionality inside core SAP. Comments from the follow-on discussion are captured in section below titled "Develop Feedback for SAP".</p>
3.	<p><u>Individual Solution Presentations: Navy ERP, LMP, and DLA</u></p> <p>The intent of these presentations about how each DoD SAP ERP project has handled MILS processing requirements to date was to provide all present an appreciation of the need to accommodate MILS/DLMS transactions within DoD logistics ERP systems and illustrate various technical solutions.</p> <p>Mr. Nick Bereschak gave a presentation detailing how US Navy SMART ERP and the new Navy Converged ERP system accommodated MILS.</p> <p>Mr. James Stanfield gave a presentation detailing how DLA BSM accommodated to MILS.</p> <p>The US Navy and DLA BSM presentations are included as attachments to these meeting minutes.</p>
4.	<p><u>Develop Feedback for SAP:</u></p> <p>The group determined the following information and questions needed to be included in a short term (next week) response from the DoD SAP Requirements TF to SAP:</p> <p>SAP's draft specification is not detailed enough for us to provide a comprehensive response.</p>

<p>SAP's proposal appears very limited, and implementation/upgrade with just this functionality (with only a small number of codes) would be of limited value to us.</p> <p>US needs status, advice, and priority codes and associated business rules in SAP for both retail customer and wholesale vendor purposes. Therefore we need SAP systems to accept all status code and advice code values that are contained in the customizing tables for that SAP instance.</p> <p>ACTION: DLMSO - Provide SAP Requirements TF Chair (Mike Hennessy) for forwarding to SAP the references (data element definition, characteristics, code values, and definition of code values) for DLMS advice, status, and priority codes. DLMSO will do an initial scrub of codes to determine validity and classify their importance.</p> <p>POC: Chairman SPRC</p> <p>Estimated Resolution Date: 30 June</p> <p>US require status and advice codes to be a 2-digit minimum, 3-digit maximum code, to capture additional condition information.</p> <p>In the future, US require the ability to be able to use multiple status and advice codes for a single order.</p> <p>Modifications to these fields need to be captured in the change log in the individual SAP documents (SO, PO, etc).</p> <p>Need this functionality to be available in sales orders and on delivery documents, in addition to PR's, PO's, and material reservations, as well as related IDOC's.</p> <p>In addition to proposed derivation rules for priority, need the ability for the customer to input Priority code directly and see the information on the screen.</p> <p>US DoD solutions used the customer/additional data tabs to add the additional MILS/DLMS element fields to SAP transactions. We will provide SAP this info as proposed standard field names/locations for MILS data elements. Rules for these fields will depend on the specific transaction (create, change, display) and these rules should be configurable.</p> <p>ACTION: Provide SAP Requirements TF Chair (Mike Hennessy) for forwarding to SAP info on proposed standard field names/locations for MILS data elements, for use in customer/additional data tabs.</p> <p>POC: Navy Converged ERP – Mr. Terry Grib will coordinate.</p> <p>Estimated Resolution Date: 31 July</p> <p>Priority, Advice, and Status codes need to be stored at line item level.</p> <p>The SAP draft specification refers to “existing functionality”. Does this functionality exist in the Bundeswehr SDP? Or is it available in 4.7 today?</p>
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	<p>Can we get more detail from SAP about their proposed solution?</p> <p>Need SAP to explain the functionality (business rules) associated with these fields (Priority, Status, Advice codes) in the proposed solution.</p> <p>Does the proposed functionality just support the Available To Promise (ATP) process? What other processes?</p> <p>What are the specific MILS advice codes supported in the proposed solution? Example: 2B</p>
5.	<p><u>DoD MILS/DLMS Strategy - Next Steps:</u></p> <p>The group discussed the following longer term issues related to SAP and MILS/DLMS:</p> <p>Programs may be in a situation where it won't be worthwhile to convert to a future SAP release unless SAP provides a complete MILS/DLMS solution.</p> <p>Is SAP interested in developing a full DLMS solution? If so, we need to provide SAP a detailed functional description including business logic for a complete MILS /DLMS solution in SAP.</p> <p>Who could best coordinate a DRQ for SAP for a complete MILS/DLMS solution?</p> <p>In the interim, what other DLMS related DRQ's should we develop?</p> <p>Most programs would like to pursue an XML-based MILS/DLMS solution, but as there is no DoD standard yet, they are using DLMS ANSI X.12 EDI.</p> <p>DSCA wants to remain involved in these discussions. They are a focal point for international customers sending MILS transactions to US DLA and the Services.</p> <p>DoD ERP programs should share functional designs as they've already built the logic behind all the advice codes. Can we get together and share this information between the various US DoD SAP projects? Can we share these solution details with DEIG members?</p> <p>An SAP MILS/DLMS solution needs to encompass additional MILS elements including Supplemental Address.</p> <p>Need further research to determine other MILS/DLMS data elements we want SAP to add, then submit new DRQ's.</p> <p>Should we piggy-back on the existing DRQ's (submitted by Denmark) or should we submit new DRQ(s) with our complete requirement?</p>

	<p>We should ask SAP to determine a standard set of IDOC's relevant for DoD business transactions.</p>
6.	<p><u>Summary and Action Item Review:</u></p> <p>The TF Chairman led a group review of action items generated during the meeting:</p> <p>ACTION: DLMSO - Provide SAP Requirements TF Chair (Mike Hennessy) for forwarding to SAP the references (data element definition, characteristics, code values, and definition of code values) for DLMS advice, status, and priority codes. DLMSO will do an initial scrub of codes to determine validity and classify their importance.</p> <p>POC: Chairman SPRC</p> <p>Estimated Resolution Date: 30 June</p> <p>ACTION: Provide SAP Requirements TF Chair (Mike Hennessy) for forwarding to SAP info on proposed standard field names/locations for MILS data elements, for use in customer/additional data tabs.</p> <p>POC: Navy Converged ERP – Mr. Terry Grib will coordinate.</p> <p>Estimated Resolution Date: 31 July</p> <p>The TF Chairman reviewed the meeting objectives. The meeting generated significant feedback concerning SAP's draft specification on priority, advice, and status codes. This information will be packaged into a response to SAP. The response will be included as an attachment to these meeting minutes. Based on the discussion about next steps concerning a MILS/DLMS strategy, it was clear that more work remains to be done. DoD is not ready to share an overarching MILS/DLMS strategy or related DRQ's with SAP and it is unclear who in DoD is responsible for making the policy decisions required to develop this strategy and related DRQ's. Several of the meeting attendees would likely be key participants in such an effort. Additionally, more work remains to be done in other areas related to the SPRC, including definition of UID and AIT requirements.</p> <p>In conclusion Mike Hennessy thanked everyone for the spirited, engaged dialogue and would capture the specifics and sentiment in the TF response back to SAP. He also looked forward to receiving the details concerning advice, status and priority codes and the proposal for a standard DoD naming convention across all MILS elements within SAP.</p>
7.	<p><u>Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next DoD SAP Requirements TF meeting details are provided below:</p> <p>Dates and Time: 1000 –1700 7 July 04</p> <p>Location: 1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 2100, Arlington, VA 22209</p> <p>Dial-In/VTC Information: TBD</p> <p>Guest Code: TBD</p>